

WASHINGTON  
**HIGHER  
EDUCATION**  
COORDINATING BOARD



**WE HELP  
STUDENTS  
SUCCEED**

# ***2004 Strategic Master Plan for Higher Education***

## ***Implementation Update***

***September 2005  
Higher Education Coordinating Board***

# ***A Strategic Plan for Change***

## **Goal 1: Increase opportunities for students to earn degrees**

- Increase the number of students who earn college degrees by 7,200 to reach 68,500 per year by 2010
- 3,300 more associate degrees each year (to reach 27,000 per year by 2010)
- 2,800 more bachelor's degrees per year (30,000 by 2010)
- 1,100 more graduate/professional degrees per year (11,500 by 2010)

# ***A Strategic Plan for Change***

## **Goal 2: Respond to the state's economic needs**

- Increase the number of students who earn degrees and are prepared for work in high-demand fields to reach 1,500 per year by 2010
- Increase the number of students who complete job training programs to reach 25,000 per year
- Increase the number of students in adult basic education/ESL programs who demonstrate improved literacy skills to reach 20,525 per year by 2010

# ***1. Funding for Student Success***

## **Outcomes-based System/Performance Contracts**

- Research universities and several comprehensive universities developed prototype performance contracts in 2004
- The 2005-07 budget identifies several areas for improved performance linked to increased funding

## **Higher Education Finances**

- **Washington Learns:** Develop options for creating a new higher education funding system

## ***2. Allocating Student Enrollments***

### **Simulation Model**

- The HECB has developed a model to analyze impacts of enrollment and funding alternatives

### **Funding of Student Enrollments (2005-07)**

- **HECB Budget Recommendation:** Increase of 12,900 FTE enrollments (6,300 at 2-year; 6,600 at 4-year)
- **Final Budget:** Increase of 7,900 FTE enrollments (4,185 at 2-year; 3,695 at 4-year)

### ***3. Increasing the Number of Degrees in High-demand Fields***

#### **Funding of New High-demand Enrollments**

- **HECB Budget Recommendation:** 1,300 high-demand FTEs at 2-years; 1,000 at 4-years
- **Final Budget:** Increased per-FTE funding at all institutions, but no funds specifically dedicated to high-demand enrollments

#### **State/Regional Needs Assessment**

- Staff is developing needs assessment framework (Sept. 2005) and inventory of degree programs (Feb. 2006) to help identify high-demand fields

## ***4. Keeping College Tuition Affordable and Predictable***

### **Short-term**

- **HECB Recommendation:** Limit tuition increases to average of 7% per year over 4 years and maximum of 10% per year
- **Final Budget:** Annual tuition increases limited to 7% at research universities, 6% at regionals, 5% at CTCs

### **Long-term**

- **Washington Learns:** Will determine the share of the cost of instruction that should be funded through tuition, general fund, and financial aid



## ***5. Promoting Opportunity Through Student Financial Assistance***

### **State Funding**

- **HECB Budget Recommendation:** \$85.8 million enhancement for 2005-07 biennium
- **Final Budget:** Net increase of \$60 million:
  - ✓ State Need Grant eligibility increased to serve 10,000 more students with family incomes up to 65% of state median. A total of 65,000 students will receive SNG
  - ✓ Funding for the need grant, work study and scholarship programs increased to reflect rising tuition and new enrollments
  - ✓ Pilot program approved to assist students at up to 10 colleges who work while attending classes part-time

## ***6. Meeting Regional Needs***

### **Branch Campuses**

- Completed branch campus report (Feb. 2005) and will reconsider Tri-Cities issues later this year
- HECB will set performance outcomes and monitor changes at all four branch campuses

### **State and Regional Needs Assessment**

- Guidelines for HECB approval of 4-year degrees scheduled for adoption Sept. 2005; working with CTCs on baccalaureate pilot programs
- Draft needs assessment available Sept. 2005
- Snohomish-Island-Skagit higher education study has begun as directed in 2005-07 capital budget

# ***7. Helping Transfer Students Earn Bachelor's Degrees***

## **New Associate Degree Pathways**

- New pathways being developed for nursing, elementary education, and engineering

## **90-Credit Requirement for Transfer Students**

- HECB has eliminated policy that restricted transfer of more than 90 credits from 2-year to public 4-year colleges

## **Statewide On-line Student Advising System**

- HECB will seek supplemental appropriation of \$1.1 million for on-line system to describe four-year degree requirements for transfer students

## ***8. Helping Students Make the Transition to College***

### **College Readiness definitions**

- 2005-07 state budget includes \$600,000 for the HECB to develop readiness definitions in English and science
- Work continues on the Transition Math Project

### **K-12/Higher Education Transitions**

- Completed progress report on “Collaborative Efforts to Improve Student Transitions”
- Currently surveying schools and colleges to identify promising college preparation programs

## ***9. Reducing Barriers for Non-traditional Students***

### **Financial Assistance for Low-income Workers**

- **HECB Budget Recommendation:** \$2 million for pilot project
- **House Bill 1345:** Established pilot project at up to 10 institutions to expand eligibility for State Need Grant to students taking at least four credits (a reduction from the current six-credit minimum). Funded through enhanced SNG appropriation

# ***10. Promoting Student Success through Greater Accountability***

## **New Higher Education Accountability Model**

- HECEB has adopted new accountability model, which was developed in collaboration with colleges and universities
- Completed development of common and institution-specific measures
- 2005-07 budget includes additional performance measures that will be tracked in coordination with the HECEB-adopted standards

# ***11. Measuring Student Success with an Improved Data System***

## **Statewide Student Data Warehouse**

- Memorandum of understanding is being developed by HECB, OFM and 4-year institutions
- Working as partners with OFM to gather student data
- HECB will seek supplemental appropriation in 2006 for comprehensive student-level 'data warehouse'

WASHINGTON  
**HIGHER  
EDUCATION**  
COORDINATING BOARD



**WE HELP  
STUDENTS  
SUCCEED**